

Message Text

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ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

IGA-02 DRC-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-11 /115 W

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R 070821Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6583

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11544

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID JA VS

SUBJ: JAPANESE AID TO SOUTH VIETNAM

REF: STATE 175909

1. ON SEPT 6 ECONCOM/MIN MADE APPROACH TO MIKANAGI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAU, FONOFF, PER REFTEL. MIKANAGI REPLIED THAT FONMIN OHIRA WILL INFORM SEAMED REPS (ONE OF WHOM WILL BE GVN MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AN (PHONETIC) AT OCT 11-13 MEETING IN TOKYO THAT JAPAN INTENDS PROVIDE GVN WITH \$50 MILLION IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. MIKANAGI INDICATED THIS PUBLIC COMMITMENT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO REASSURE VIETNAMESE THEY WILL RECEIVE PROMISED FUNDS.

2. GOJ PARLIAMENTARY STRATEGY RE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST STILL NOT DECIDED. GOJ MAY CONVENE EXTRAORDINARY DIET LATE OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER, AND SUBMIT REQUEST TO IT. ALTERNATIVELY, GOJ MAY CONVENE ORDINARY DIET IN EARLY DECEMBER AND SUBMIT REQUEST TO IT. IN THAT EVENT FUNDS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL AFTER NEW YEAR'S RECESS AS PART OF ORDINARY BUDGET.

3. MIKANAGI REPEATED THAT GOJ STRATEGY NOT YET DECIDED,
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BUT THAT HE HOPED THAT BY TIME OF SEAMED MEETING MORE

WOULD BE KNOWN AND THIS COULD BE EXPLAINED TO MINISTER AN.
IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, HE CONTINUED, GOJ WOULD TRY TO MAKE
OPERATIONAL PLANS WITH GVN ON AID AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
AFTER THAT, EVEN THOUGH DIET HAD NOT YET APPROVED REQUEST.
MIKANAGI STRESSED THAT THIS WAS HIS PERSONAL IDEA AND
THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY WOULD AGREE. ECONCOM/MIN
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT FONOFF COULD PERSUADE MOF AND MITI
TO AGREE FORMULATE PLANS PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF DIET
BUDGET PROCESS.

4. COMMENT: IN PRINCIPLE, GOJ ORDINARY BUDGET FOR ANY FISCAL YEAR
IS SUPPOSED TO PASS THE DIET BEFORE FISCAL YEAR BEGINS
APRIL 1. IN 1973, BUDGET PASSED APRIL 11. IF AT TIME
OF SEAMED MEETING IT APPEARS THAT GOJ STRATEGY IS TO
REQUEST FUNDS FROM ORDINARY DIET, WE RECOMMEND MINISTER AN
APPROACH OHIRA DIRECTLY TO STRESS GVN URGENT NEED FOR DIS-
BURSEMENT OF FUNDS, AND TO REQUEST THAT LOANS BE DISBURSED
PRIOR TO GRANTS DESPITE GOJ PREFERENCE DISBURSE GRANTS
FIRST. AT THAT TIME EMBASSY COULC MAKE SIMILAR APPROACH
TO GOJ. END COMMENT.
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